



Southern Regional Office (SRO)
400 W. Congress, Suite 433, Tucson, AZ 85701

**DRAFT Minutes of the
Shannon Road/El Camino del Cerro Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF)
Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting – 23rd Meeting**

January 11, 2006, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Nanini Library, 7300 N. Shannon Road, Tucson, Arizona

W-10190.13.6.2

CAB Members Present: Randy Abbey, Susan Bjerke, Gary Burchard, Marty Drozdoff, Marc Herman, Terri Hutts, Bob Ornelas, Al Pesqueira, Ellie Towne

CAB Members Absent: Fran LaSala, Gary Pitman

ADEQ Staff Present: Matt Doolen, Superfund Programs Unit Supervisor; Sherri Zendri, Project Manager; Melissa Hayes, Community Involvement Coordinator

Members of the Public Present: Jeff Drumm, Mike Block, Glenna Rader, Janet Methot, Wally Wilson, Sam Riechers, Patrick Rundhaug

The meeting began at 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Al Pesqueira, CAB co-chair, welcomed members and conducted introductions.

2. Approval of Minutes for 10/05/05

Terri Hutts motioned to approve the minutes; Randy Abbey seconded. All CAB members were in favor; none were opposed.

3. Vote on CAB Resignation: Francis LaSala

Marty Drozdoff motioned to accept Fran LaSala's resignation, Ellie Towne seconded. All were in favor; none opposed.

4. Vote on CAB Application: Charles Black

Melissa Hayes said that she and Sherri Zendri gave a presentation about the Shannon Road/El Camino del Cerro WQARF Site at the Flowing Wells Neighborhood Association and Community Coalition meeting in November, at Ellie Towne's request. She said that Chuck Black submitted his application for the CAB at that meeting, and was unable to attend this CAB meeting. Terri Hutts motioned to table the vote on his application until the next meeting; Marty Drozdoff seconded. All were in favor; none opposed.

5. Nomination/Election of CAB Co-Chairs for Next Term

Melissa Hayes explained that the CAB's charter stipulates that nomination and election of CAB co-chairs takes place each January. However, since the CAB did not meet in January 2005, and did nominations/elections at the first CAB meeting of the year on June 8, 2005, she asked the CAB if they wanted to go back to the regular schedule or wait until the next term. Marty Drozdoff proposed that the CAB validate what was done at the June 2005 meeting and continue with the current CAB co-chairs until January 2007, which would bring the CAB back to its normal voting schedule. Ellie Towne motioned that the current CAB co-chairs, Al Pesqueira and Gary Pitman, continue until January 2007; Terri Hutts seconded. All CAB members were in favor, none opposed.

6. Site Investigation Update/Q&A

Sherri Zendri, ADEQ Project Manager, reviewed the results of the last sampling round in September 2005 for the Shannon Road/El Camino del Cerro WQARF Site. She said that the W-38 well, recently installed to replace the W-24 well which went dry, had detections of PCE and TCE. The W-38 levels are the highest in that area, and the area is considered the "hot spot" in the shallow zone. She reviewed the well locations, and said that there are three depths where contamination has been detected at the site. She said that the contaminants are all volatile organic compounds, which are dense and move with the groundwater; they are all dissolved in water or attached to soil particles.

Marty Drozdoff said that some of the compounds tested for at the site are cancer-causing. The CAB discussed toxicological characteristics of compounds. Melissa Hayes clarified that some of these substances could be cancer-causing if a person is exposed to them through contaminated drinking water or soil; a person has to be exposed to them to potentially be at risk. Groundwater in the area is approximately 130 feet below the ground surface. Sherri Zendri said she will bring toxicological information to the next CAB meeting.

Randy Abbey asked if migration of contaminants was seen at the site. Sherri Zendri said that migration has not been seen; concentrations have changed, in part because of changes in the water levels. She reviewed a table showing the levels of the contaminants detected at the site. She said that trends over time can be seen. The CAB requested hydrographs for the site, and Sherri Zendri said that she would bring them to the next meeting.

Sherri Zendri said that ADEQ performed soil gas sampling at the former E.C. Winter property most recently in October 2005, and there were some elevated levels. She said that ADEQ will be installing a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system on the property. The system is currently in the design phase, and ADEQ plans to install it by the end of this fiscal year in June. Gary Burchard requested that the SVE system design be brought to the next CAB meeting.

Sherri Zendri reviewed the status of the I-10 Surplus property. She said that Pima County is still working with the owner to properly remove the drums of chemicals currently stored on the property. She said that the waste has been segregated, identified and properly contained. The hazardous waste has been labeled and contained, but not yet been removed and disposed of. The estimate for the property owner to remove the waste was much higher than expected, so the financial issues are being addressed. Sherri Zendri said that Pima County is regularly updating her on the situation. She said that ADEQ will probably do a limited surface investigation afterward.

Sherri Zendri updated the CAB about the former Wrecksperts property. She said that ADEQ did a stormwater inspection on site, and determined that a stormwater permit is not necessary. She said that

ownership of the property has been clarified, and the property owner is still hesitant to grant access. She said that ADEQ sent a certified letter in December outlining ADEQ's position, and that ADEQ will take enforcement action if need be. However, the property owner does not answer certified mail, so it was returned unanswered. Sherri Zendri said that ADEQ is speaking with the Attorney General's Office about ADEQ's enforcement authority. She said that ADEQ is moving forward with trying to gain access, and a second letter will be sent within a few weeks.

Sherri Zendri discussed the status of the upgrade to the South Shannon well, and showed photos. She said that the backwash tank was being installed, and Mike Block, Metro Water, added that the granular activated carbon units would be delivered next week. Sherri Zendri said that there were some snags with electrical service, causing the project to fall behind schedule. She said the well is expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year. She explained that Metro Water designed the upgrade, Ashton Construction is doing the work, and ADEQ is funding the upgrade.

Sherri Zendri discussed the former El Camino del Cerro Landfill. She said that Pima County had historically taken the lead for work at the Landfill, and had a hiatus for a year. Pima County recently put out a request for a proposal asking for consultants, a scope of work, data review of the current data, a work plan for gathering additional data, and approval of any construction on site.

7. Presentation: Drought and Subsidence, and the Effects on the Shannon Road/El Camino del Cerro WQARF Site – Sherri Zendri, ADEQ Project Manager

Sherri Zendri explained that there was an error in the wording of this agenda item, and subsidence is out of the scope of ADEQ and will not be addressed. Subsidence is the compaction and falling of the land surface because of the water table lowering. She said that the CAB's question at the last meeting was how falling water levels can affect the site cleanup. She said that there is increased water usage in the area, but most of the decrease in water levels is from the current drought. She showed a graph illustrating normal and current precipitation, showing that it is significantly below what it should be.

She then described how much water levels have been falling. Wells 19 and 17 have gone dry in the southern part of the WQARF Site, and 24 (replaced), 20, 27 and 29 in the northern portion. Contamination is affected by factors such as the type of soil, the heterogeneity of the soil beneath the site, how much water is infiltrating and how many contaminants there are to begin with.

She showed a diagram of a well and illustrated what happens when the water level drops. She explained how the sampling interval where contamination is detected changes based on the level of the water. She said that it is a problem if the well does not have the appropriate sampling intervals because the levels that are measured are not accurate. She said that falling water levels affect the way cleanup systems function, and can make cleanup more costly.

Gary Burchard asked if some of the wells that have gone dry at the El Camino del Cerro Landfill will be replaced by Pima County. Marc Herman said that if the dry well in the northeast corner of the landfill presents a data gap, it may be replaced.

8. Call to the Public

No one from the public had any comments.

9. CAB Outreach Discussion/Membership Discussion

Terri Hutts thanked Melissa Hayes and Sherri Zendri for their presentation at the November meeting of the Flowing Wells Neighborhood Association and Community Coalition.

10. Other Administrative Business

Melissa Hayes announced that former CAB member, Sam Riechers, was present at the meeting. She also mentioned that the ADEQ Shannon Road/El Camino del Cerro WQARF Site fact sheet has been updated, and copies are available for the CAB to distribute.

She said that the Attorney General's Office dictated a policy on usage of email in public bodies. She said that there is a requirement for a notation that must be provided at the bottom of each email that is sent between ADEQ and the CAB, or between CAB members. Melissa Hayes distributed a hard copy of the email notations that the CAB and ADEQ should use. She reiterated that email communication between the CAB members should be avoided, and if used, must be to less than a quorum.

Matt Doolen, ADEQ Superfund Programs Unit Supervisor, then reviewed his background, and said that it is encouraging to see such an active group. Melissa Hayes added that the former Superfund Programs Unit Supervisor, Mike Fulton, is now Deputy Director of the ADEQ Waste Programs Division in Phoenix.

11. Next Meeting Date and Time/Agenda Discussion

The next CAB meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 5, 2006, at the Nanini Library, large meeting room, 7300 N. Shannon Rd., Tucson, from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. [*Note different start time.*] Call Melissa Hayes, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, for meeting details and proposed agenda. The CAB discussed the agenda for the next meeting.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

This meeting was recorded on cassette tapes as a record of the proceedings. To listen to the tape, or for additional documents mentioned in these minutes, contact ADEQ's Southern Regional Office, Community Involvement Office, 520/628-6712.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Hayes 3/20/06
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